

by the Family Violence Prevention Fund to establish a partnership to improve the health care system's response to domestic violence, called the National Health Initiative. New Hampshire was one of only 10 States in the Nation to participate in this program and the only State in New England. To this day, Grace continues to work with the medical community to educate physicians on the impact of trauma from domestic and sexual violence.

In 1999, the coalition successfully applied to be one of six sites in the country selected for what is known as the Greenbook Project. Grafton County was selected and funded as a national demonstration site for improving collaboration between domestic violence organizations, courts, and child protective services in families where there is a co-occurrence of domestic violence, child abuse, and neglect. New Hampshire was the only site selected in the eastern United States. This project has led to more collaborative efforts not only in Grafton County but across New Hampshire.

Grace was highly involved in the creation of one of the first AmeriCorps programs in the State. Named the AmeriCorps Victim Assistance Program, it was a "first in the Nation" model that she started with representatives from the New Hampshire Department of Justice and the State's court system, and is now in its 11th year. The program recruits and trains members to assist victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking at crisis centers, police departments, prosecutors' offices, the New Hampshire Department of Justice, and on college and university campuses throughout the State.

As Grace retires, I commend her efforts and congratulate her for all of the accomplishments of the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing her 30 years of service on behalf of the people of New Hampshire.●

MENDOTA HIGH SCHOOL CHESS TEAM

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Mendota High School chess team on winning the 2011 CalChess Premier Division State Championship in Santa Clara this April. The Mendota High School chess team worked tirelessly to become State champions and a source of great joy and pride to the people of Mendota and Fresno County.

Mendota High School chess team coach, Vanness French, has been working with most of the members of the championship chess team since they were in the third grade. It was Coach French who gave the team its unique nickname, Knucklehead, a reference to the long-lasting cylinders on vintage Harley-Davidson motorcycles. The 2011 Mendota chess team certainly lived up to their expectations, never giving up

as they defeated several higher rated opponents en route to claiming the State title.

The members of the 2011 Mendota High School CalChess Premier Division State Championship include: Eduardo Alonso, Edwin Brioso, Joel Montalvo, Chrispen Reyes, Milton Arroyo, Luis Castillo, Julian Estrada, Lizzy Gonzales, Charle Ledesua, Sergio Mayares, Kevin Romero, Jessi Mendez, and Felipe Beltran.

It is with great pride that I congratulate these students on an extraordinary accomplishment, and the hard work, dedication, and perseverance they showed in achieving it.

As the Mendota chess team celebrates the 2011 CalChess Premier Division State Championship, I commend them a remarkable and memorable year and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. JOHN BEARDEN WILLIAMS

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge two very special people who have reached a significant milestone in their lives, Mr. and Mrs. John Bearden Williams. This week, Mr. Williams and his bride, Gretchen Schilde Williams, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

John and Gretchen's marriage has been very blessed. They were married on June 6, 1971, in Baton Rouge, LA, at the First Baptist Church. Throughout their marriage they have maintained a strong partnership, working together in ministry and giving of themselves to their church and community.

They have been longtime supporters of the Louisiana School for the Deaf, and Mr. Williams and his children were all featured in the Louisiana Bar Journal for their many years of service to the Baton Rouge legal community. During Mr. Williams' more than 40 years of legal practice, Mrs. Williams was a constant and committed advocate, organizer, and friend. Their unbreakable alliance has served to encourage, uplift, and bring out the best in one another, and the longevity of their union shows their deep and abiding love and commitment to each other, growing stronger throughout their journey. They have raised three children, Stephen Schilde, John Richard, and Cynthia Williams Dashiell, and are now the proud grandparents of five grandchildren—Haley, Jack, Mary Gretchen, Martin, and Scott.

I am pleased to recognize and honor John Williams and Gretchen Williams as they celebrate 50 years of marriage, and I hope their family continues to be blessed.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1903. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Agency Office of the Inspector General" (RIN0750-AG97) (DFARS Case 2011-D006) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1904. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a proposed change to the Fiscal Year 2009 National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation (NGREA) procurement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1905. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the training of the U.S. Special Operations Forces with friendly foreign forces during fiscal year 2010; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1906. A communication from the Deputy to the Chairman, Legal Office, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Securities of Nonmember Insured Banks" (RIN3064-AD67) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 1, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1907. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Luxembourg; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1908. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to China; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1909. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to the Congress on the Profitability of Credit Card Operations of Depository Institutions"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1910. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of a national emergency declared in Executive Order 13222 with respect to the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1911. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program for Certain Consumer Appliances: Test Procedures for Battery Chargers